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ABSTRACT

Beginning in the Fall of 1995, the University of South Carolina-Spartanburg (USCS) embarked on a new trek to make transfer of course work from two-year, associate degree granting institutions, into baccalaureate degrees. With the vast amount of information being manipulated, it was discovered that a database would be the best method of data management; "Microsoft Access" (c) was chosen as the database engine and soon all data for the articulation agreements was entered. It was decided that the World Wide Web would be used to make the data easily accessible to students. To translate the "Microsoft Access" database reports into HTML, an "Internet Assistant" developed by Microsoft was used; however due to its limitations, a no-cost HTML editor called "AOLpress" was located on the Web and used to add background images and graphics files. Once the HTML pages were completed, files were then e-mailed to the USCS Webmaster for publication to the USCS Webserver. This project illustrates that through the use of readily available software on the Web, novices can easily create personal projects. Exhibits provided at the end of this paper include the USCS Agreements, and Degree Choices Report. (AEF)

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ED 410 931

Program-to-Program Articulation for the World Wide Web

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TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

Introduction – Articulation and Dissemination of Information

The mission of The University of South Carolina-Spartanburg (USCS) is grounded in the belief that it is a metropolitan university. Being a metropolitan university means USCS accepts its role as providing higher education and service to the community known as the Upstate of South Carolina. As part of this metropolitan mission, USCS embarked upon a new trek to make transfer of course work from two-year, associate degree granting institutions, into baccalaureate degrees. What started off as a small effort in the Fall semester of 1995 with two local technical colleges, has blossomed into a relationship that includes four associate degree granting institutions and over 120 program-to-program articulation agreements.

Initially, the agreements were created with a word processor program and duplicated as needed. With the vast amount of information being manipulated, it was soon discovered that a database would be the best method of data management. Microsoft Access© was chosen as the database engine and soon all data for the articulation agreements was entered.

For these articulation agreements to be fully utilized there had to be some way for students to easily access the data. Various methods were considered and tried, but none were more cost effective than placing them on the World Wide Web (WWW). Once this was decided, an efficient way had to be used to translate the data from a Microsoft Access© format into Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) to enable potential students to view the data from a "web browser".

Selection of the HTML Translation Tool

Rather than trying to learn the intricacies of HTML, the developers scanned the WWW in search of a no-cost solution to translating the Microsoft Access© database reports into HTML. It was

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discovered that Microsoft had developed such a tool as a free add-on to the Access© database. This tool, called internet assistant, worked remarkably well in translating the reports into HTML pages, but it lacked in formatting flexibility. The filter which translated the reports into HTML lacked many of the HTML tags necessary to incorporate simple functions such as "mailto" and incorporate graphics files. Reports which were translated into HTML were translated line by line as individual tables. This proved to be a formatting nightmare. But it did translate the data into and HTML format and provided a quick and easy way to place information on the WWW.

Selecting an HTML Editing Tool

Basically Microsoft Internet Assistant© is just that – an assistant. It assists in the process of moving data from a standard database format to HTML. Once the developers reached this point, a search was conducted to look for another no-cost tool to assist in "beautifying" the newly created HTML documents.

An acceptable "no-cost" tool was located at the following WWW address: http://www.aolpress.com/press/1.2features.html. The HTML editor is called AOLpress©. AOLpress© allowed the developers to incorporate "mailto" functions and dress-up attributes like background images and graphics files. All of these functions, as well as page linking, are literally a button click away. You can even download and edit the HTML you are browsing which makes editing pages currently on the web a snap. There is one limitation which is not uncommon to HTML editors – one cannot upload pages to the server from AOLpress© after the pages have been edited.

The Finished Product

Once the HTML pages were completed files were then e-mailed to the USCS Webmaster for publication to the USCS Webserver. The Webmaster created all of the correct directories for various files and verified that page links worked correctly. As one can see, the pages work and are downloadable and printable from anywhere in the world (for sample pages see exhibits a, b, and c).

Navigation of the "2+2" Web Pages

One may view the project by entering the following web address: http://www.uscs.edu/academics/two+two/. This address takes the potential "2+2" student (for our purposes we will call him the viewer)to the USCS "2+2" index page (Exhibit B). Once the viewer accesses the index page he must make a choice from one of four colleges listed on the page (for our purposes this will be Spartanburg Methodist College [SMC]). He will then guide the mouse pointer to the link labeled "Spartanburg Methodist College" and click the left mouse button. This takes the student to the SMC index page (Exhibit C). The student then selects a major area of study and guides the mouse pointer to it. Upon clicking the link to the selected major, the "2+2" document (Exhibit A) is retrieved and the student may download or print the document for future reference.

Conclusion

There are many uses of the Internet/World Wide Web. This project represents one useful method of being productive in a low/no cost way to attract students to programs and services offered by

colleges and universities. The beauty of this project is that one need not be a "webmeister" to develop and post pages to the World Wide Web. Through the use of readily available software on the "Web", those with little, or no, experience with web publishing can be up and running with personal projects in no time.

Exhibits:

Exhibit A

USCS/Spartanburg Methodist College Communications "2+2" Agreement

USCS Major	USC-Spartanburg			3/19/97
Communication	College of Arts and Sciences			SMC Associate
USCS Catalog: 1996	Spartanburg Methodist College			Degree Program: Arts
	"2+2" Program Sheet			
	Appendix A			
General Education Requirements			Major Requirements	
		SMC Courses		SMC Courses
Group 1 Communications			Required Courses of All Majors	
SEGL 101 3 hrs.		ENGL 101	SSPH 301 3 hrs.	
SEGL 102 3 hrs.		ENGL 102	SSPH 340 3 hrs.	
SSPH 201 3 hrs.		SPCH 201	SJOU 301 3 hrs.	
Group 2 Mathematics			STHE 375 3 hrs.	
SMTH 120 3 hrs.		MATHLIST	SCOM 490 3 hrs.	
SMTH 201 3 hrs.		MATHLIST	Group Requirements	
Group 3 Arts and Humanities			Major Elect 3 hrs.	
Fine Arts 3 hrs.		FINARTLIST	Major Elect 3 hrs.	
SHST 101, 102, 111, or112 3 hrs.		HISLIST	Major Elect 3 hrs.	
Elective 3 hrs.		RELIGLIST	Major Elect 3 hrs.	
Group 4 Social and Behavioral Sciences			Cognate Courses	
SGIS 201 3 hrs.		POLS 202	Cognate Elective 3 hrs.	
Elective 3 hrs.		SOCBEHLIST	Cognate Elective 3 hrs.	
Elective 3 hrs.		SOCBEHLIST	Cognate Elective 3 hrs.	

Group 5 Natural Sciences			**Cognate Elective 3 hrs.**		
Elective w/ Lab 4 hrs.		**NATSCILIST**	**Support Courses**		
Elective 3 hrs.		**NATSCILIST**	**SEGL 300+ 3 hrs.**		
Group 6 Foreign Culture			**SEGL 300+ 3 hrs.**		
Elective 4 hrs.		**FORCULLIST**	**Foreign Language 201 3hrs.**		**FORCUL LIST**
Elective 4 hrs.		**FORCULLIST**	**SHST 3 hrs.**	**ELEC2NOTE**	
Group 7 Computer Studies			**Free Elective Courses**		
SCSC 130 2 hrs.		**CSCI 101**	**Free Elective 3 hrs.**	**LITLIST**	
SCSC 131/137 1 hrs.		**CSCI 101**	**Free Elective 2 hrs.**	**ELEC1LIST**	
			Free Elective 3 hrs.	**SMC SERIES**	
			Free Elective 3 hrs.		

Notes

When one of the following notations is found, refer to Spartanburg Methodist Degree Choices Report. FINARTLIST=Fine Art List HISLIST=History List RELIGLIST=Religion List SOCBEHLIST=Social Behavioral List FORCULLIST=ForeignCulture List LIT LIST=Literature List ELEC1LIST=Elective 1 List ELEC2NOTE=Elective 2 Note. 67 Hours apply toward degree program.

Spartanburg Methodist College Degree Choices Report

Literature List

Choose one course to satisfy SMC Literature requirement. LITR 201 LITR 203 LITR 202 LITR 204

Mathematics List

Choose two (2) courses to fulfill USCS' Mathematics requirement. THOSE MARKED (*) ARE RECOMMENDED AS BEST COURSES FOR THIS DEGREE PROGRAM. MATH112*MATH210*MATH121*MATH 221 MATH 122 MATH 222

Fine Arts List

Choose one (1) course to fulfill USCS' Fine Arts requirement ARTS 201 MUSI 201 DRAM 101

History List

Choose one (1) course to fulfill USCS' History requirement HIST 101 HIST 102 HIST 112

Religion Note

Choose one (1) course to fulfill USCS' Arts and Humanities elective requirement RELI 103 RELI 212 RELI 211 RELI 215

Social and Behavioral Science List

Choose two (2) courses with two disciplines represented (i.e. if you choose a PSYC course to fulfill the first course requirement, you may not choose another PSYC course to fulfill the second course requirement) BSAD 201 POLS 203 BSAD 202 PSYC 101 POLS 201 SOCI 101

Natural Science List

Choose two (2) courses to fulfill Natural Science requirement USCS' BIOL 101 BIOL 202 CHEM 202 PHYS 101 BIOL 102 CHEM 101 PSCI 101 PHYS 102 BIOL 105 CHEM 102 PSCI 102 PHYS 222 BIO 201 CHEM 201 PSCI 103 PHYS 223

Foreign Culture List

Choose a three (3) course sequence to fulfill USCS' foreign culture requirement and one (1) of the support course requirements FREN 101 FREN 202 SPAN 201FREN 102 SPAN 101 SPAN 202FREN 201 SPAN 102

Arts and Humanities List

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Elective 1 List

Choose two (2) courses to fulfill SMC's degree requirements PHED 101 PHED 110 PHED 119 PHED 102 PHED 111 PHED 120 PHED 103 PHED 112 PHED 121 PHED 104 PHED 113 PHED 122 PHED 105 PHED 114 PHED 123 PHED 106 PHED 115 MILI 111 PHED 107 PHED 116 MILI 112 PHED 108 PHED 117 MILI 211 PHED 109 PHED 118 MILI 212

Elective 2 Note

Note: an additional history course is required to meet USCS degree requirements. This course can be any history course offered by SMC. Please consult the USCS transfer coordinator for more information. He can be reached at (864) 250-8870 or 503-5990. Ask for Chuck Morton.

All courses completed as part of Spartanburg Methodist College Associate Degree Program transfer to USC-Spartanburg. Due to differences in requirements for specific majors offered at USCS, not all courses from Spartanburg Methodist College apply toward a particular degree program. Students enrolled at the Univerisity of South Carolina - Spartanburg must complete all courses required by the degree program from which they plan to earn a degree.

For more information contact at the University of South Carolina-Spartanburg by e-mail to Morton-Chuck@sc.edu

Exhibit B

USCS 2+2 Agreements

Because of its commitment to inter-institutional cooperation, the University of South Carolina - Spartanburg (USCS) began developing program-to-program articulation agreements with two-year colleges in the Upstate of South Carolina. These agreements, which have come to be known as the USCS "2+2" program, allow for students, who wish to attend two-year colleges, to apply credit hours to specific degree program requirements. The "2+2" program optimizes the students time and tuition expense spent on a baccalaureate degree program while enrolled at the two-year college.

What started off as a small effort to better cooperate with selected colleges has mushroomed to well over 100 program-to-program articulation agreements. USCS offers degree programs in Biology, Chemistry, Communications, Computer Science, Computer Science-Applied Mathematics, Computer Science-Computer Information Systems, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, Economics/Finance, Elementary Education, English, French, History, Interdisciplinary Studies, Managerial Accounting, Management of Operations, Manufacturing Management, Mathematics, Marketing, Physical Education, Physical Education-Corporate Fitness, Political Science, Psychology, Professional Nursing, Public Accounting, Secondary Education-Biology, Secondary Education-Chemistry, Secondary Education-English, Secondary Education-French, Secondary Education-Mathematics, Secondary Education-Social Studies/History, Secondary Education-Social Studies/Political Science, Secondary Education-Spanish, Sociology, and Spanish. Each of these degree programs has been articulated as part of a "2+2" program.

Colleges listed below are part of the "2+2" program. To access "2+2" degree programs at one of these institutions, click on the hyper-link, then choose the USCS degree program in which you are interested.

Greenville Technical College

Spartanburg Methodist College

Spartanburg Technical College

University of South Carolina - Union

If you have questions concerning "2+2" agreements, please e-mail Chuck Morton (Morton-Chuck@sc.edu)

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Exhibit C

USCS/Spartanburg Methodist

"2+2" Agreements

Click on one of the following to display the "2+2" agreement for that particular degree program.

Biology

Chemistry

Communications

Computer Science

Computer Science - Applied Mathematics

Computer Science - Computer Information Systems

Criminal Justice

Early Childhood Education

Economics/Finance

Elementary Education

English

French

History

Interdisciplinary Studies

Managerial Accounting

Management of Organizations

Manufacturing Management

Marketing

Mathematics

Physical Education

Physical Education - Corporate Fitness

Political Science

Professional Nursing

Psychology

Public Accounting

Secondary Education - Biology - Chemistry - English - French - Mathematics

Secondary Education - Social Studies/History

Secondary Education - Social Studies/Political Science

Secondary Education - Spanish

Sociology

Spanish